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LMA/MISSION HILL FOOD PROJECT



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YEAR END REPORT 10/1/84 - 9/30/85

The LMA/Mission Hill Food Project is a consortium of 15 medical and educational institutions in the Longwood Medical Area and Mission Hill neighborhoods working in partnership with local community organizations to provide emergency food assistance principally to the Mission Hill and Fenway area.

Food Project events are supported by employees and students of the institutions as well as by residents and service agencies of the neighboring community. Proceeds from canned food drives and fundraisers supplement the ABCD Parker Hill/Fenway Neighborhood Service Center Emergency Food Pantry. Dietary interns provide assistance to the Boston Food Bank and Project Bread.

The Food Project is a unique collaboration of institutions and community organizations working together on this critical social issue.

MEMBERS

ABCD Parker Hill/Fenway NSC
Emergency Food Pantry
Beth Israel Hospital
Boston Food Bank
Brigham and Women's Hospital
The Children's Hospital
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Emmanuel College
Harvard Medical School

Harvard School of Dental Medicine
Harvard School of Public Health
HCHP Hospital
MASCO
Massachusetts Mental Health Center
Mission Church
New England Baptist Hospital
New England Deaconess Hospital
Simmons College
The Winsor School

HISTORY

In April, 1984, Brigham and Women's Hospital hosted a meeting to address the need for emergency food assistance within the Mission Hill and Fenway neighborhoods. Representatives of Longwood Medical Area and Mission Hill institutions met with members of local community groups and formed the LMA/Mission Hill Food Project and outlined the following goals:

- educate employees and students on the issue of hunger
- sponsor fundraising events
- hold canned food drives to provide protein-rich foods
- provide resources such as transportation, equipment, printing, and dietary assistance

It was agreed that each institution should determine the ways it would best like to contribute and participate.

ACTIVITIES

The Food Project has benefitted from the diverse nature of the institutions and community groups involved. Activities have been wide-ranging and unique. The following is a summary of the past year's events.

Canned Food Drives

- Individual canned food drives at Brigham and Women's Hospital, The Winsor School, and HCHP Hospital.
- Christmas LMA-wide canned food drive at Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, Brigham and Women's Hospital, MASCO, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, The Winsor School, HCHP Hospital, and Simmons College.
- Canned food drive at the Mission Hill Fair.

Education

- Forum on Hunger in Boston held at the Harvard School of Public Health. Speakers included Dr. Richard Nesson, President, Brigham and Women's Hospital; Dr. Larry Brown, Chairperson, Physicians Task Force on Hunger; Dan Daley, Executive Director, Project Bread; Robert Coard, Executive Director, ABCD; and Raymond L. Flynn, Mayor of Boston.
- Placement of Brigham and Women's Dietetic Interns at the Boston Food Bank.
- Placement of NEDH Dietetic Interns at Project Bread and the Hunger Hotline.
- Requests to the Governor for appropriation of additional funds for transportation of USDA surplus commodities to the Boston Food Bank. Letters were sent from Beth Israel Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, The Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, MASCO, and Simmons College.

Transportation

- Bi-weekly transportation for the Food Pantry to the Boston Food Bank provided by Beth Israel Hospital.
- Quarterly transportation for cheese and butter distribution to local home-bound residents provided by MASCO, Beth Israel Hospital, and Harvard Medical School.
- Occasional trips to a local food warehouse for the Food Pantry provided by HCHP Hospital.

Fundraisers

- Silent Auction at Simmons College raised \$2,200 for Project Bread, \$1,500 of which was earmarked for the Parker Hill/Fenway NSC Emergency Food Pantry.
- Spaghetti dinner fundraiser at Brigham and Women's Hospital.
- Summer on the Harvard Medical School Quad fundraising activities in conjunction with Harvard's Outings and Innings. Weekly events were highlighted by a Breakdance Showcase with performances by area teenagers.
- Collaboration with Longwood Medical Area Food Vendors. Donation cans placed at:
 - Uncle Meyer's Hot Dog Stand Vanderbilt Hall Dining Area
 - The Blackbird Stand Pat's Place
 - Chuck's Subs
- Contributions from Brigham and Women's Hospital, New England Baptist Hospital, The Children's Hospital, MASCO, Harvard Medical School, English High School, and HCHP Hospital.

Technical Support

- Marketing and public relations for the summer Farmer's Market in Mission Hill.
- Food Project posters, brochures, and stationery provided by MASCO.
- Donations of items needed for fundraisers from MASCO, Harvard Medical School, and Harvard School of Public Health.
- Other vendors and businesses have made donations and in-kind contributions. They include the Genetics Institute, Sterlings, the Boston Red Sox, Creative Gourmet, Med-Tech Gases, Inc., Copy-Quik, Inc., and Vin-Mar Contracting.

IMPACT

Since the Food Project's involvement, the number of households served by the Food Pantry has doubled. Of the 11,034 meals distributed in FY'85, approximately 50% were available because of the support of the LMA/Mission Hill Food Project.

The employee, student and neighborhood support of the activities of the past year have enabled the Parker Hill/Fenway NSC Emergency Food Pantry to increase the number of households it is able to serve. Of the \$5,592 FY'85 Food Pantry Revenue, \$3,292 came directly from the Food Project. In addition, a major portion of the canned goods distributed at the Food Pantry was from Food Project drives.

FUTURE PLANS

The need for emergency food assistance in the Mission Hill and Fenway neighborhoods continues to grow. As a result the LMA/Mission Hill Food Project will continue its current level of support to the Food Pantry.

The Food Project will sponsor an LMA-wide Thanksgiving Drive from November 18-22 at many of the institutions. A benefit fundraiser to be held during the same week will highlight the Drive's activities.

One goal of the Food Project for the next year is to expand the number of community groups involved. Mission Church will be collaborating with the Food Project on the Thanksgiving Drive and the effort may be expanded to other neighborhood churches.

Another central objective will be to increase the number of canned and non-perishable food drives. Canned goods decrease the cost-per-meal, which would allow more households to be served, and provide an emergency stock for the Food Pantry.

A third focus of the Food Project will be to encourage other Boston institutions and community groups to form mutually beneficial partnerships such as the LMA/Mission Hill Food Project.

Fundraising and education will continue to be important goals.

SUMMARY

"I see this particular partnership as a good example of how private institutions, students, employees, local residents and service agencies can get together and be able to support an important community program for the mutual benefit of all parties involved."

Julio Pabon, Director
Parker Hill/Fenway NSC

The LMA/Mission Hill Food Project has been an innovative and successful partnership between Longwood Medical Area and Mission Hill institutions and the surrounding neighborhoods. The support of the institutions' employees and students and of community residents has been the critical factor in the Food Project's success. Its positive impact on the local Food Pantry has been demonstrated.

The Food Project has enabled the institutions and community to work cooperatively in addressing this critical social issue. In addition, this partnership has established a communication network from which other joint efforts can begin.

ABCD Parker Hill/Fenway NSC Emergency Food Pantry
Fiscal Year 1985

Comparison of Food Pantry Activity by Household, FY'84 vs. FY'85

<u>Month</u>	<u>FY'84</u>	<u>FY '85</u>
October	18	32*
November	12	28
December	11	31
January	26	48
February	20	41
March	6	32
April	13	36
May	17	26
June	28	28
July	18	64
August	23	43
September	20	25
Total	212	434
Monthly Average	17.7	36.1

- Increase over previous year 204.7%

*1st month of LMA/Food Project participation

Households and Individuals Served in FY'85

<u>Month</u>	<u>Households Served</u>	<u>Individuals</u>
October	32	87
November	28	85
December	31	76
January	48	130
February	41	114
March	32	91
April	36	100
May	26	59
June	28	68
July	64	214
August	43	140
September	25	62
Total	434	1226
Monthly Average	36.2	102.2

- Total meals supplied in FY'85 11,034
 (3 meals per person for 3 days)

LMA/MISSION HILL FOOD PROJECT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ABCD Parker Hill/Fenway NSC Emergency Food Pantry	Tom Peters	445-6000
Beth Israel Hospital	Joan Mendelsohn	735-4524
Boston Food Bank	Kate Acheson	427-5831
Brigham and Women's Hospital	John McGonagle Kathy McManus	732-5940 732-7493
Children's Hospital	Roberta Henry Patricia Queen	735-6184 735-6177
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute	Mena Macedo	732-3301
Emmanuel College	Maureen Powers	735-9722
Harvard Medical School	Carol O'Leary	732-2298
Harvard School of Public Health	Bruce Smith	732-1116
HCHP Hospital	Kerry Strickland Frank Silvia	735-8893 735-8757
MASCO	Maureen Leonard	732-2317
Massachusetts Mental Health Center	Lillian Shubow	734-1300 X357
Mission Church	Fr. Lawrence Buckley	445-2600
New England Baptist Hospital	Connie Apple	738-5800
New England Deaconess Hospital	Joanne Wade Caroline Roy	732-8180 732-9338
Simmons College	Trena Cleland	738-3159
The Winsor School	Esu Lackey	735-9500

